STATE OF NEW YORK

9391

IN SENATE

March 9, 2026

Introduced by Sen. RAMOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to raising daily room and board rates at adult homes proportionally to increases in the minimum wage in the city of New York

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that adult homes provide essential housing, supervision, and supportive services to thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers, including seniors and individuals with disabilities. Adult homes are funded through multiple streams, including payments that support room, board, and non-medical services such as food, housing, case management, recreation, and supervision. The adult home daily room and board reimbursement rate has not received a New York state cost-of-living adjustment in over seventeen years, despite substantial increases in operating expenses.

During this same period, New York City has enacted multiple minimum wage increases, significantly raising labor costs for adult home providers. Adult homes are required to comply with all applicable minimum wage laws, yet unlike nursing homes and shelters, they do not receive corresponding or automatic reimbursement adjustments to offset these mandated increases.

Minimum wage increases directly impact frontline staffing costs in adult homes, creating ongoing and unfunded financial pressure on providers. Existing reimbursement structures limit the ability of providers to reward staff seniority and experience, weakening workforce stability, retention, and quality of care. It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to establish a fair, predictable, and transparent mechanism to align adult home room-and-board reimbursement rates with New York City minimum wage increases.

§ 2. Section 461-c of the social services law is amended by adding a new subdivision 2-b to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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2-b. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, when the adult care facility is an adult home, as defined in subdivision twenty-five of section two of this chapter, the agreement executed pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall include language providing that whenever the minimum wage applicable within the city of New York is increased pursuant to section six hundred fifty-two of the labor law, the daily room and board rate shall be increased by an amount equal to the percentage of such minimum wage increase. Such adjustment shall apply solely to the portion of such rate intended to cover room, board, and non-medical supportive services and shall not affect Medicaid reimbursement rates. The office of temporary and disability assistance, in consultation with the department of health, shall be responsible for implementing the rate adjustments required under this subdivision. The office of temporary and disability assistance shall be authorized to promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this subdivision.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.